

D-168

Realty Building
East New Market
private

c. 1914-1918

The Realty Building, now owned by the Choptank Masonic Lodge, is an important two-story brick commercial building that defines the southeast corner of the main intersection in East New Market. The stretcher bond brick building is highlighted by concrete stringcourses and keystones as well as pressed metal ceilings through the first and second floors. The interior passage that provided convenient, private access to the storefronts is a relatively unusual feature for commercial buildings on the Shore. Formerly sited on this property was a three-story frame building that burned around 1914.

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic REALTY BUILDING

and/or common MASONIC LODGE

2. Location

street & number SE Corner of intersetion of MD Routes 14 & 16 ___ not for publication

city, town East New Market ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Dorchester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
___ district	___ public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	___ agriculture ___ museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	___ unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial ___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational ___ private residence
___ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	___ entertainment ___ religious
___ object	___ in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	___ government ___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial ___ transportation
	___ not applicable	___ no	___ military ___ other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester Co. Clerk of Court liber

street & number Dorchester County Courthouse folio

city, town Cambridge state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historic Sites Inventory

date ___ federal ☒ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Maryland Historical Trust

city, town Annapolis state Maryland 21401

7. Description

Survey No. D-168

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Realty Building stands on the southeast corner of the main intersection of East New Market, Dorchester County, Maryland. The large two-story commercial building, which also houses two meeting halls, faces west.

Built between 1914 and 1918, the two-story, three-bay stretcher bond brick commercial building is covered by a flat roof disguised by a parapet wall. While comprised of commercial space on the first floor, the brick building serves as a meeting hall on the second floor for two groups, the Choptank Lodge of Masons and the Masonic womans auxillary known as the Eastern Star.

The west (main) elevation is a basically symmetrical three-bay facade with a center entrance and flanking storefronts. The glazed double-door entrance, incorporated within a slightly projecting gabled vestibule, is topped by a round arched transom of radiating muntins. The gable pediment above the doorway lines up with a mid-level cornice that stretches along the street elevations. The storefront south of the center doorway is marked by a recessed entrance and flanking plate glass display windows. A series of smaller, frosted windows line the top of the glazed area. The storefront to the north is slightly different with the entrance located in the corner of the building, and a pier marks the outside corner of the structure. The second floor of the west facade is marked by three paired six-over-six sash windows with the center bay distinguished by a arched transom. Concrete stringcourses, which stretch across the second floor elevation, line up with the upper and lower edges of the windows. The original brick parapet wall has been modified with a slight raising of the center wall area in contrasting concrete.

The north side of the structure is divided into four storefronts on the first floor and seven uneven bays on the second floor. Each storefront has a recessed entrance and flanking plate glass display windows. The second floor is lighted by a combination of paired and single six-over-six sash windows with concrete keystones fixed in the round arch that frames each window transom. The north facade is highlighted by a concrete stringcourse as well.

The south side, on the other hand, is marked by an asymmetrical fenestration with a series of six-pane windows topped by segmental arches which light the first floor. A concrete stringcourse extends around to the south side and lines up with the bottom edge of the second floor six-over-six sash windows. Towards the back (east) end of the building the elevation rises slightly to a taller two-story structure. A service entrance pierces the south wall of the rear section.

(continued)

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

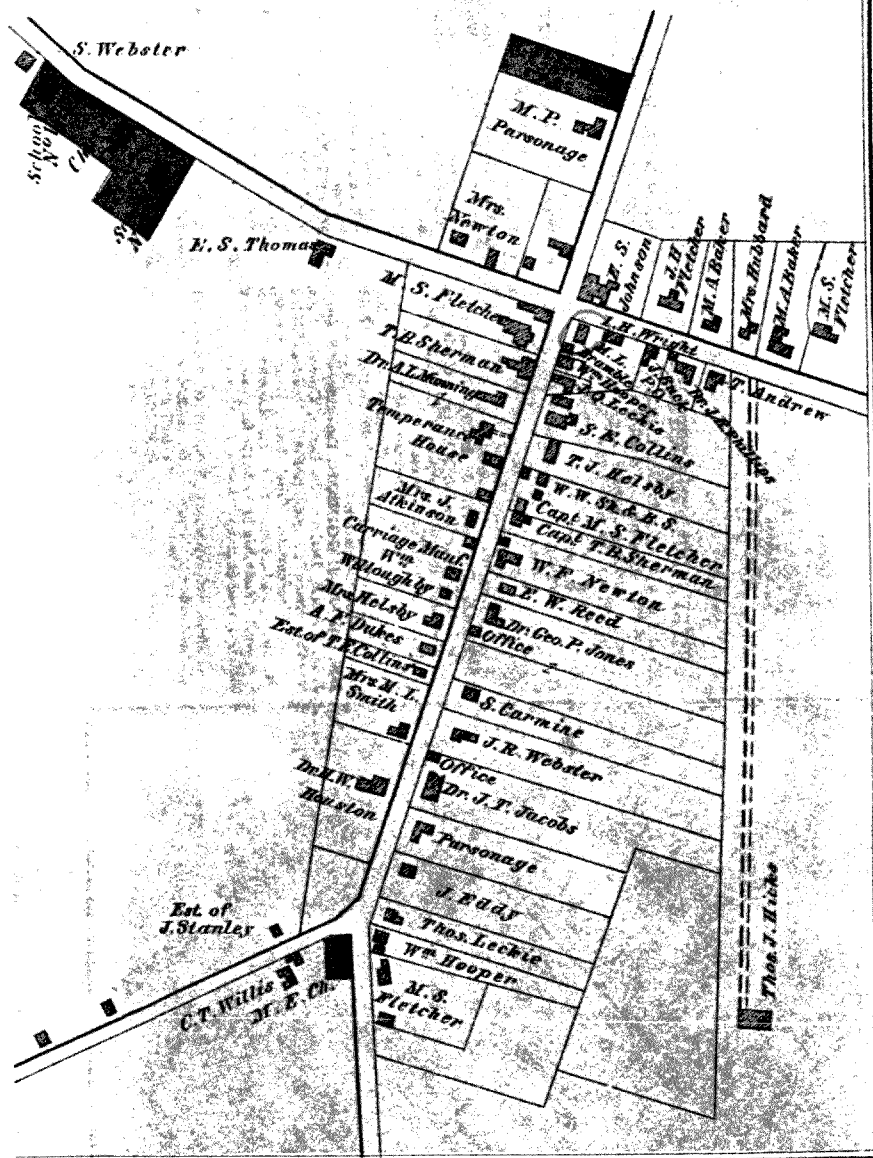
The Realty Building is a prominent two-story commercial building that marks the southeast corner of the main intersection of East New Market. Built between 1914 and 1918 to replace a three-story frame structure that burned, the Realty building was designed to house a handful of businesses with separate exterior entrances and private interior entrances that open onto a center passage. The commercial spaces along with the meeting rooms above were finished with pressed metal ceilings. The stretcher bond brick building is an important visual anchor for the center of town since two of the other four corners are not defined by buildings.

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The interior of the Realty building has not been altered significantly since the early twentieth century. The center west entrance enters into a narrow passage that contains a stair to the second floor meeting rooms. The passage extends through the entire middle of the building and provides interior access to each store. The stair is marked by a heavy square, paneled newel post, square balusters, and a molded handrail. The ceiling is covered with pressed metal. The adjacent store spaces are also finished with pressed metal ceilings, most of which remain in excellent condition. The passage extends the full depth of the building and provides access to a rear stair that is fixed against the east wall. The second floor space, separated by a center passage as well, is divided between the two groups. Located in the northwestern corner of the second floor is the meeting room for the Choptank Masonic Lodge, while a large meeting room, kitchen, dining room, and lounge comprise the balance of the space for the members of the Choptank Lodge of Eastern Star. The second floor ceilings were also executed in pressed metal designs.

DORCHESTER CO.

(East New Market Dist.)



**EAST NEW MARKET BUSINESS
REFERENCES.**

J. W. ANDREWS, Dealer in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, Hardware, Queensware, Cutlery, Tinware, Ready Made Clothing, Harness, Notions, and all other articles usually kept in a country store. Residence and Store, Cabin Creek, Md.

K. B. FLETCHER, Proprietor of the "Upper Cabin Creek" Flouring Mill. Merchant and Custom work done. Wheat and Corn bought at all times. Cabin Creek.

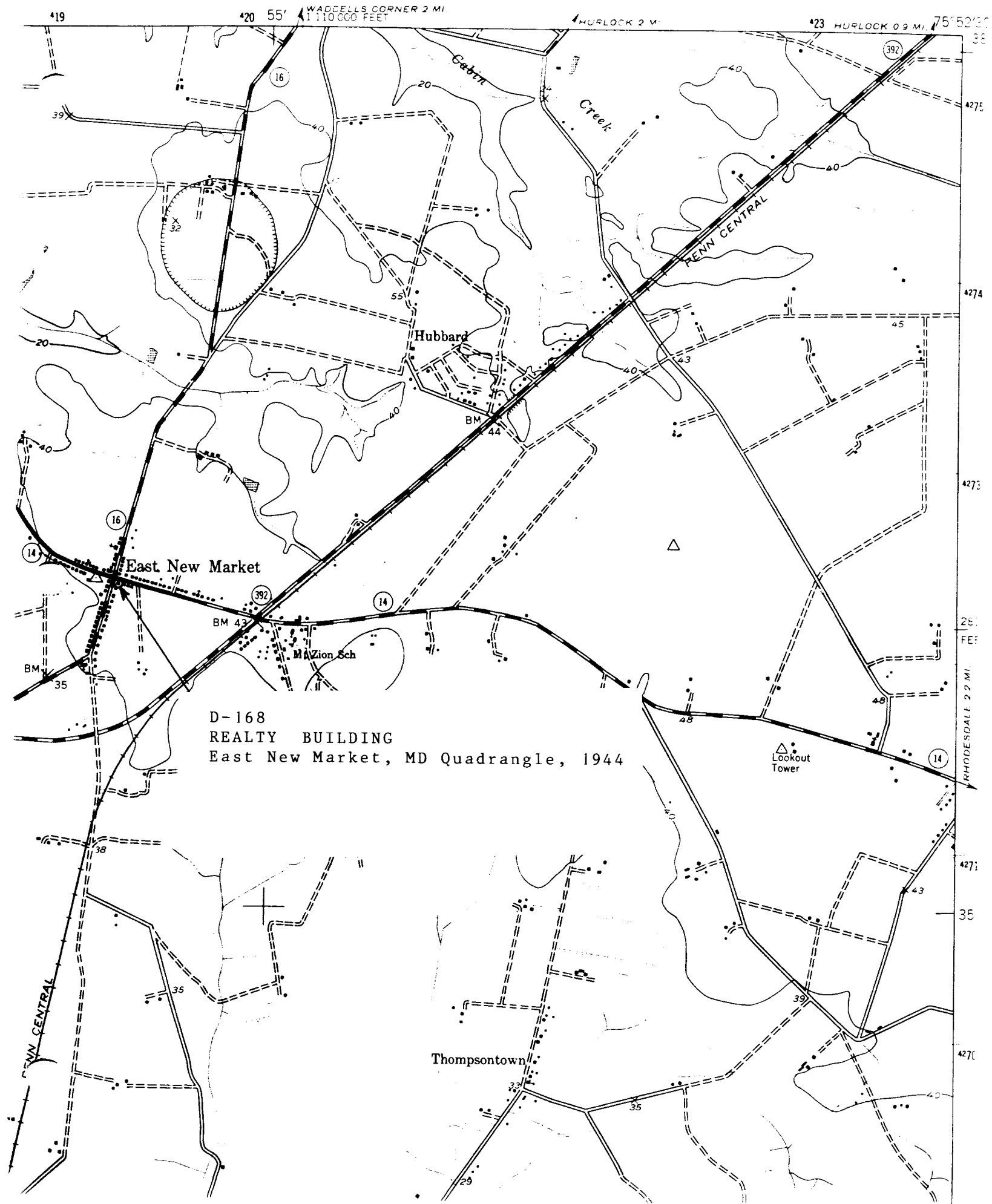
B. F. SHERMAN, Proprietor of "Lower Cabin Creek Mills." Merchant and Custom work done. Highest cash prices for Wheat and Corn. Also constable of East New Market District. P. O. East New Market.

JAMES H. KELLY, Proprietor of "Little Brick Mill," Custom work done at all times and in a satis-

WILLIAM R. HOOPER, Manufacturer of Boots and Shoes. I keep a fine assortment on hand, and for sale at all times. All kinds of work done from finest Calf to "Plough Brogans." Orders solicited. Repairing neatly done. Shop, East New Market.

W. S. POTTER & SON., Proprietors of "Holly Grove Canning Factory." All kinds of Fruits canned, and kept on hand, and for sale at all times; Warranted as marked. Peaches a specialty. Residence and Canning Factory near East New Market, Dorchester County, Md.

H. W. HOUSTON, Dealer in Drugs, Medicines,
Chemicals, Oils, Varnishes, Dye Stuffs, Fancy and
Paints, 111 S. Second St., has Perfumery, Toilet





REALTY BUILDING

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East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD

West elevation

10/87 Paul Touart photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust



REALTY BUILDING D-168
East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD
North elevation
10/87 Paul Touart photographer
Negative/MD Historical Trust



REALTY BUILDING

D-168

East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD

Southwest elevation

10/87 Paul Touart photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust

1021-35 D-168 50%



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Realty Bldg.



REALTY BUILDING

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East New Market, Dorchester Co., MD

West elevation-Masonic signposts

10/87 Paul Touart photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust